

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/509,624

Examiner

Hoai-An D. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

YAKABE ET AL.

Art Unit

2858

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
(b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. The purpose of the examiner's amendment was to correct informalities in the specification, claims and drawings to place this application in the condition for allowance.
2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATIONS:

- The abstract of the disclosure has been combined into a single paragraph format as required by MPEP § 608.01(b).
- -- This application claims priority to a 371 of PCT/JP02/10910, filed on October 22, 2002 -- has been inserted as a first sentence in the specification.

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 1:

- Line 5: -- the -- has been inserted before "same".

3. The following changes to the drawings have been amended as follows:
 - Each of Figure 6 and Figure 7 should be labeled as Prior Art as disclosed in page 12, lines 18-23 of the specification.
 - In FIG. 7: "116" has been replaced with -- 115 -- as described in the first and second paragraphs on page 3.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above drawing changes.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. Claims 1-8 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to claim 1, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the claimed electric potential fixing apparatus in combination as claimed including:

- A voltage supply unit, having at least two high impedances, operable to maintain constantly electric potential of the connection line, holding a total amount of electric charge of the first capacitance and the second capacitance.

With regard to claim 2, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the claimed electric potential fixing apparatus in combination as claimed including:

- A voltage supply unit, having at least two high impedances, operable to output the same electric potential as electric potential of an operation signal applied to the connection line.

With regard to claim 7, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the claimed electric potential fixing method in combination as claimed including:

- Electric potential divided using at least two high impedances as output electric potential, the output electric potential is applied to the connection line between the two capacitances and the output electric potential is fixed at output potential at

Art Unit: 2858

which there is no input and output of electric current to and from the connection line.

With regard to claim 8, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the claimed electric potential fixing method in combination as claimed including:

- Electric potential divided using at least two high impedances as output electric potential, the output electric potential is applied to the connection line between the two capacitances and the output electric potential is fixed at output potential at which there is no input and output of electric current to and from the connection line.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONTACT INFORMATION

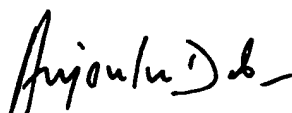
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoai-An D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2170. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 - 5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Lefkowitz can be reached on 571-272-2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2858

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HADN



**ANJAN DEB
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Hoai-An D. Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2858

HADN